

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BUDAPE 03687 081542Z
ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-08 ISO-00 AID-01 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00
/028 W

-----016660 081549Z /44

O R 081501Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2448
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ZAGREB
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUDAPEST 3687

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: OREP (STAFFDEL OLIVER), HU
SUBJECT: STAFFDEL OLIVER'S VISIT TO EASTERN EUROPE

REF: STATE 223346

1. BARTHA OF MFA ADVISED DCM SEPTEMBER 8 THAT THE GOH IS NOT REPEAT NOT PREPARED TO RECEIVE THE PROPOSED VISIT OF THE CSCE COMMISSION STAFF. BARTHA READ CAREFULLY FROM A PREPARED TEXT THE FOLLOWING OFFICIAL HUNGARIAN RESPONSE: "ACCORDING TO OUR VIEW, SO SHORTLY AFTER THE CONSULTATIONS WE HELD IN WASHINGTON IN JULY WE DO NOT FIND IT ACTUAL TO CONDUCT ANOTHER EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ABOUT THE QUESTIONS CONCERNING EUROPEAN SECURITY. WE ARE NOT PREPARED FOR THIS CHIEFLY BECAUSE WE COULD NOT SAY ANYTHING NEW BEYOND WHAT WE HAVE SAID IN WASHINGTON. OUR OPINION AND PRACTICE ABOUT THE CONGRESSIONAL COMMISSION IS WELL KNOWN, THERE IS NO CHANGE. WE ARE PREPARED AS ORIGINALLY DISCUSSED IN WASHINGTON TO RECEIVE A STATE DEPARTMENT DELEGATION FOR CONSULTATIONS IN BUDAPEST IN THE FIRST HALF OF 1979. WE REPEAT (UNDERLINE) OUR READINESS FOR THESE CONSULTATIONS."
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2. DCM REPLIED THAT WE REGRET THE DECISION OF THE HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT AND, SPEAKING FRANKLY, BELIEVE THAT IT MAY REPRESENT A SETBACK IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS. HE ADDED THAT HE WOULD REPORT THE HUNGARIAN POSITION IMMEDIATELY. BARTHA ADDED THAT THE HUNGARIAN EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON IS INSTRUCTED TO

DELIVER THE ABOVE REPLY TO THE DEPARTMENT THIS AFTERNOON. IN REPLY TO A QUESTION FROM THE DCM, BARTHA EMPHASIZED THAT THE GOH WILL BE PREPARED TO RECEIVE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION STAFF AS MEMBERS OF A DELEGATION LED BY A DEPARTMENTAL OFFICER. HE ADDED THAT THIS WAS HIS PERSONAL VIEW WHICH HE WAS NOT AUTHORIZED TO GIVE US, BUT HE IS CONFIDENT IT WILL BE THE OFFICIAL HUNGARIAN VIEW. SINCE IT IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE OFFICIAL HUNGARIAN RESPONSE AT THIS TIME, THIS LAST POINT WILL NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE HUNGARIAN EMBASSY'S REPLY TO THE DEPARTMENT.

3. BARTHA ALSO STATED THAT THE ABOVE OFFICIAL REPLY HAD BEEN COORDINATED WITH "OTHER OFFICES". AFTER MEETING, AMERICAN DESK OFFICER REVESZ TOLD THE DCM THAT HUNGARY HAD CONSULTED WITH OTHER SOCIALIST COUNTRIES BEFORE REPLYING TO OUR PROPOSAL. DURING THESE CONSULTATIONS THE POLES HAD REPORTED THAT THEY HAD THOUGHT THE COMMISSION STAFF WANTED TO VISIT WARSAW, AND THAT THEY (THE POLES) WERE PUZZLED ABOUT WHY NO REQUEST HAD BEEN MADE FOR A VISIT. REVESZ ALSO ADDED THAT OUR CHOICE OF ITINERARY (BELGRADE, BUCHAREST, AND BUDAPEST) WAS UNFORTUNATE AND HAD PLAYED A ROLE IN THE HUNGARIAN DECISION.

4. COMMENT: THE HUNGARIAN ATTITUDE TOWARD THE CSCE COMMISSION HAS CLEARLY NOT EVOLVED AS FAR AS WE HAD HOPED IT HAD. WE BELIEVE THAT THE COMMISSION STAFF WILL BE ABLE TO VISIT BUDAPEST
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AS PART OF A DELEGATION LED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT.

5. FOR EMBASSY BELGRADE: REQUEST YOU INFORM STAFFDEL OLIVER OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THIS MESSAGE. PLEASE CONVEY TO STAFFDEL OUR REGRET THAT WE WILL NOT SEE THEM IN BUDAPEST NEXT WEEK.
KAISER

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NNN

Message Attributes

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